

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are pending in this application. Claims 1-43 are subject to restriction. Claims 17, 36 and the specification have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed September 5, 2003, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species A, Claims 1-16 and 25-35, for examination, with traverse.

Applicant has amended formerly independent Claims 17 and 36 so that they now each depend from Claim 1. Thus, Claims 1-24 and 36-43 now depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 1.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 17, 2003

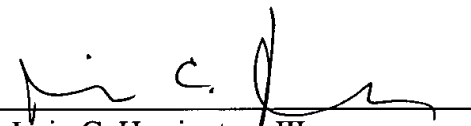
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By


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